

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claim 45 is pending in the present application. Claims 2, 6, 8, 22, 26, 28 and 41-44 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claim 45 is added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 2, 6, 8, 22, 26, 28 and 41-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakajima (JP 9-236763) in view of Yamaguchi (U.S. Patent No. 6,133,566), Naoe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,758,950, herein "Naoe") and Iwasa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,144,685, herein "Iwasa").

Initially, Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of a personal interview with Examiner Pham on February 11, 2005. During the interview, differences between the claimed invention and references cited in the outstanding Office Action were discussed. In particular, the Examiner indicated that the references did not appear to show a method of adjusting alignment of light beams in a multibeam light source that included rotating a semiconductor laser array with respect to a bracket with tapped screw holes. A new claim and comments discussed during the interview are reiterated below.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 2, 6, 8, 22, 26, 28 and 41-44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Nakajima in view of Yamaguchi, Naoe and Iwasa, with respect to new Claim 45.

New Claim 45 is directed to a method of adjusting alignment of light beams in a multibeam light source that includes, *inter alia*, emitting light from a plurality of light emitting points in a semiconductor laser, first rotating the semiconductor laser array with respect to a collimator lens to a first alignment position, retaining the semiconductor laser array in the first alignment position using an ultraviolet curing adhesive, second rotating the

semiconductor laser array with respect to a bracket with tapped screw holes to a second alignment position, and retaining the semiconductor laser array in the second alignment position with respect to the bracket by tightening screws through the tapped screw holes after the second rotating.

As discussed during the interview, the references in the outstanding Office Action do not teach or suggest a method of adjusting alignment of light beams in a multibeam light source that includes rotating the semiconductor laser array with respect to a bracket with tapped screw holes to a second alignment position and retaining the semiconductor laser array in the second alignment position by tightening the screws. In particular, Nakajima and Yamaguchi appear to show rotating a semiconductor laser array around a central point, but do not appear to indicate rotating the semiconductor laser array within the looseness of screw holes. Further, Naoe and Iwasa also do not appear to teach or suggest that feature.

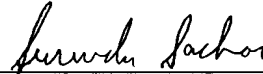
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Nakajima, Yamaguchi, Naoe and Iwasa do not teach or suggest “second rotating the semiconductor laser array with respect to a bracket with tapped screw holes to a second alignment position [and] retaining the semiconductor laser array in the second alignment position with respect to the bracket by tightening screws through the tapped screw holes after the second rotating,” as recited in new Claim 45.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new Claim 45 is allowable.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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